

## Dear Interested Party:

Thank you for your interest in green start, which is the Department of Environmental Protection's voluntary program to help small businesses and municipalities comply with their environmental regulatory requirements and to foster pollution prevention strategies. A small business is defined for this program as a business with fewer than 100 employees company-wide. A small municipality is any municipality in New Jersey with fewer than 10,000 residents.

Under this program, at the request of a business or municipality, the Department will provide onsite compliance assistance to help with the understanding of an compliance with the State's solid and hazardous waste management, air and water pollution control, and release prevention regulations. The onsite visit will be separate from any routine, media-specific inspection for which the facility may be scheduled. However, participation in green start may better prepare the facility for its next regular inspection.

The objective of green start is to build trust, encourage joint problem solving and achieve compliance, thereby furthering the State's environmental protection goals. Environmental regulations have become increasingly numerous and complex; green start seeks to remove some of the difficulties in their interpretation and implementation. The program is intended to improve compliance among those businesses and municipalities who posses a strong environmental commitment, but may have limited environmental expertise and financial resources.

Further, the Department has established an enforcement response policy that waives, with certain limitations, the assessment of penalties for any violation observed or revealed through on-site compliance assistance.

Applications for participation in greenstart are now being accepted. If you have any questions, please contact me at (609) 633-0632 or write to:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Office of Compliance & Enforcement PO Box 422 Trenton, NJ 08625-0422

Attn: Mary Siller

Thank you for your interest in green start. The Department looks forward to your participation. The Department is hopeful that this program will be useful to you and beneficial to the environmental quality of the State.

Sincerely,

Mary Siller, Supervisor Greenstart Program